

**Abstract**

An improved method of encoding data within directory files on an integrated circuit (IC) smart card is shown. Advantageously the improved method no longer imposes a limitation in placing the pointer data start address prior to encoding of data, since after encoding a single continuous block of unused memory within the directory file results, enables encoding applications to make better use of this memory space thereby eliminating the deficiency of having two non-sequential empty memory blocks as provided by prior art systems.

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